Amendments to and Listing of Claims:

Claims 1, 6, 11, and 16 are amended. This listing of claims is provided for convenience and replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A system for handling data requests in a distributed data delivery network, the system comprising:

    a data resource request modifier, adapted to intercept and modify a data resource request issued by a user requesting data from said network prior to said data resource request ~~reaching a~~ being advanced by a first data server encountered in said network, to create a modified data resource request; and

    a data delivery device, adapted to control routing of the requested data and delivery of the requested data from a data server in said distributed data delivery network to said user based on said modified data resource request, wherein said requested data remains unmodified through the delivery of the requested data from said data server to said user.

2. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said data resource request includes a data resource request metafile;

said data resource request modifier is adapted to modify said data resource request metafile to create a modified data resource request metafile included in said modified data resource request; and

said data delivery device is adapted to control routing of said requested data from said data server based on said modified data resource request metafile.

3. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said data delivery device issues a response to said user based on said modified data resource request to enable said user to receive said requested data from said data server.

4. (Original)   A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

said modified data resource request includes data identifying said data server as the
data server from which said requested data is to be provided to said user.

5. (Original)   A system as claimed in claim 4, wherein:

said data server identified by said data in said modified data resource request is
different from a data server identified by data in said data resource request
prior to modification.

6. (Currently amended). A system for handling a response to a data request ~~in~~ from
~~a user requesting data from~~ a distributed data delivery network, the system comprising:

a data response modifier, adapted to intercept and modify a data response issued by
a data server in said network to create a modified data response before said
requested data reaches said user, ~~in response to a data resource request~~
~~issued by a user requesting data from said network, before said response~~
~~reaches said user, to create a modified data response~~ wherein said modified
data response activates delivery of ~~the data response~~ said requested data
from an alternate server in the network, and in which said requested data
remains unmodified from said alternate server through delivery to said user;
and

a data delivery device, adapted to control routing of requested data from the
alternate data server in said distributed data delivery network to said user
. based on said modified data response.

7. (Original)   A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

said data response includes a data response metafile;

said data response modifier is adapted to modify said data response metafile to
create a modified data response metafile included in said modified data
response; and

said data delivery device is adapted to control routing of said requested data from

said data server based on said modified data response metafile.

8. (Previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein:
said data delivery device issues said modified data response to enable said user to
    receive said requested data from said alternate data server.

9. (Previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 6, wherein:
said modified data response includes data identifying said alternate data server as
    the data server from which said requested data is to be provided to said user.

10. (Previously presented) A system as claimed in claim 9, wherein:
said alternate data server identified by said data in said modified data response is
    different from a data server identified by data in said data response prior to
    modification.

11. (Currently amended) A method for handling data requests in a distributed data
delivery network, the method comprising:
    intercepting and modifying a data resource request issued by a user requesting data
        from said network prior to said data resource request ~~reaching a~~ being
        advanced by a first data server encountered in said network, to create a
        modified data resource request; and
    controlling routing of requested data from a data server in said distributed data
        delivery network to said user based on said modified data resource request,
        wherein said requested data remains unmodified through the delivery of the
        requested data from said data server to said user.

12. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein:
said data resource request includes a data resource request metafile;
said data resource request modifying step includes modifying said data resource
    request metafile to create a modified data resource request metafile included

in said modified data resource request; and

said controlling step includes controlling routing of said requested data from said
data server based on said modified data resource request metafile.

13. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 11, further comprising:

issuing a response to said user based on said modified data resource request to
enable said user to receive said requested data from said data server.

14. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein:

said modified data resource request includes data identifying said data server as the
data server from which said requested data is to be provided to said user.

15. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein:

said data server identified by said data in said modified data resource request is
different from a data server identified by data in said data resource request
prior to modification.

16. (Currently amended) A method for handling a response to a data request in a
distributed data delivery network, the system comprising:

intercepting and modifying a data response issued by a data server in said network
in response to a data resource request issued by a user requesting data from
said network, before said response reaches said user, to create a modified
data response, wherein said modified data response activates delivery of the
data response from an alternate server in the network, and in which said
requested data remains unmodified from said alternate server through
delivery to said user; and

controlling routing of requested data from said alternate data server in said
distributed data delivery network to said user based on said modified data
response.

17. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein:

said data response includes a data response metafile;

said data response modifying step includes modifying said data response metafile to
create a modified data response metafile included in said modified data
response; and

said controlling step includes controlling routing of said requested data from said
alternate data server based on said modified data response metafile.

18. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising:

issuing said modified data response to enable said user to receive said requested
data from said alternate data server.

19. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein:

said modified data response includes data identifying said alternate data server as
the data server from which said requested data is to be provided to said user.

20. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein:

said alternate data server identified by said data in said modified data response is
different from a data server identified by data in said data response prior to
modification.